

OKLAHOMA CITY TIMES

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PREPARED FOR ANY EMERGENCY.

CARRANZA'S troops have been massed on the border of Mexico as close to the United States as they may come. There are more than 10,000 American regulars on guard there. The arm stretched out after Villa extends more than four hundred miles into Mexico, with a line of communication extending from General Pershing's headquarters to the base on this side of the line.

There was trouble between the Carranza troops and the citizens on one side and the American troops on the other at Parral, the extent of which may not have been as serious as at first reported. From the first there has been evidence of Carranza's unfriendliness toward the United States. Plainly the Mexicans are hostile, as a nation, and their hostility has influenced the first chief.

While the situation is critical, there is still no reason to believe that the American army officers have been ignorant of actual conditions. General Funston has been in close touch with Mexican affairs for several months and from the day the expedition started after Villa he has known every move that was made on the American Mexican checkerboard. At all times he has been prepared for any emergency.

There is no reason to believe that General Funston is not now prepared, as fully as he may be with the force at hand, for anything that may happen. No matter how critical the situation may become, there is a growing confidence that General Funston will be able to meet it.

Henry Ford says the cry for preparedness is the work of fiction writers. Some of the reports from Mexico have been based upon fiction; it is true, but still there must be something going on down there.

MOTORISTS HAVE A COMPLAINT.

ADDITIONAL complaints are being added by the owners of automobiles, who are violently opposing the upward trend of gasoline. In addition to being much higher, the motorists in some localities are finding that the gasoline sold to them is of very poor quality. They complain that there is too much kerosene in it.

The gravity of the gasoline being sold now is lower than ever before, according to the users, about as low as will explode in a motor with any degree of efficiency. There is so much kerosene in it that the motors are hard to start. Although some motorists have in the past mixed gasoline and kerosene purposely, they are not doing so now. That has been attended to before the fuel reaches them.

Kerosene interferes with the lubricating system of the automobile motor. It leaks past the piston rings and down into the oil in the crank case, thinning it so much that it is useless for lubricating. The bearings cut and disasters result.

Automobile owners are looking longingly toward congress, or any other source of authority that promises relief. This is their first real encounter with the oil trust and they are ready to fight back as soon as they are shown the way.

By issuing \$500,000,000 in currency, Senor Carranza ought to have all he will need for a time, but the question of making it worth anything is yet to be settled.

NEED OF A MERCHANT MARINE.

CONGRESS is very busy now, but it is to be hoped that the bill providing for a shipping board, which is to encourage, develop and create a naval auxiliary, naval reserve and merchant marine will not be overlooked.

There is the trade of South America fairly knocking at the doors of the United States. American manufacturers are learning how to pack the goods as the South Americans want them packed. They are striving for the quality that is desired, and they are learning the Spanish language. All that preparation is being made, but the manufacturers are badly hampered for want of shipping facilities. The fact is that we have no ships to carry the American-made goods.

It is a pretty picture—this trade with the southern republics, but it is in danger of being sadly marred for want of vessels to carry our goods to those who want to buy them.

RACE OF THE FAVORITE SONS.

Nobody believes that any one of the candidates in the open and running for the republican presidential nomination has the slightest chance of winning, yet a number of them are apparently in earnest. They may be holding to the theory that lightning sometimes strikes in the most unexpected places.

The republicans of Delaware have even led T. Coleman Du Pont out upon the track and he is now lined up with the others as a favorite son, but with no possible chance of being nominated. In the Michigan campaign there was a surprise when Henry Ford defeated William Alden Smith in the primary. Smith is for preparedness and Ford an ultra-pacifist. The German-American voters scratched the name of Smith and wrote Ford in its place, making the automobile manufacturer a favorite son candidate, but with no better chance than the others.

There are many of these candidates, and at the Chicago convention their lightning rods will make the hall look like a forest of spirals, but that will be as far as they will get. Only Roosevelt and Hughes are being considered, it is plain to those who observe the trend of republican affairs, with the chances all in the colonel's favor. Roosevelt has denounced the republican party and one of his latest declarations is that he is still a progressive, but he has clubbed the party that is grand and old into the most complete subjection.

Savants holding a session in Philadelphia are convinced that apes cannot be taught to speak our language. Perhaps not our language, but according to other savants they have one of their own which they use quite fluently. Those who wish to converse with apes, baboons and orang-outangs should learn their languages.

CALIFORNIA IS FACING ABOUT.

PROGRESSIVES overran California four years ago and boastfully swept everything before them in the presidential election. The Bull Moose party was as strong or stronger there than in any other state. Now there are indications that California is to face about and turn in another direction politically.

There has been organized in that state the Non-partisan Wilson league, with a membership of more than 80,000, and with a prospect of increasing the membership to more than 100,000 before election day. Progressives and independent voters are joining the league in large numbers. As a result, predictions are being made that Wilson will carry California in the fall election.

Of course there is a reason, and it is the same reason that exists in many other states. California wants ample preparations made for the protection of the United States, with California included. Californians do not want war, and they believe President Wilson is the right man to hold the country back from war until such time as it may become absolutely necessary to fight.

Bull Moose blindness may be all right in ordinary times, but when there is real danger, such a man as President Wilson is safe. He has shown that he is calm under the most trying circumstances, and he is not a swashbuckler.

Prediction is made by a Pennsylvania man that the world will come to an end in a few days. A whole lot of trouble could be settled by that means more quickly than in any other way.

BARON ASTOR HAS BEEN STUCK.

AMERICANS will smile with considerable satisfaction at the information from England relative to the amount of tax for which Baron Astor, expatriated American, has been "soaked." Soaked is the good, expressive word describing the process. In other words, and to make it plainer, if need be, the baron has been stuck.

Astor paid enormously for his title, an empty handle which no true American would have accepted as a gift. He was already paying an income tax of \$1,400,000 to the British government when he was called upon to pay \$280,000 more under the budget increase.

Since the Astor income is derived principally from the enormously profitable New York investments, this means that something like \$1,680,000 American dollars have been diverted from this country to help pay Great Britain's expenses of the war. It is Baron Astor's money, of course, and he is the loser. It will be remembered that Astor left this country and went to England on account of the high rate of taxation here. Now it appears that he has jumped out of the frying pan into the fire, in the matter of taxation.

The case of Astor will do much to make popular Senator Kenyon's bill placing a larger surtax on profits sent to other countries. The wealth is produced here, and here the taxes should be paid.

Should the trainmen be given shorter hours, it is to be hoped that it will be an inducement to them to run some of the trains on time.

Prospects are favorable for action on the proposition to establish a \$15,000,000 nitrate plant for the manufacture of powder in time of need, and fertilizer in time of peace, judging from the progress of the senate debate. Particular attention should be given to the fertilizer machinery.

Summing It Up
By RICHARD S. GRAVES

All we ask—and the request seems reasonable enough—is that they do not wear short skirts and hoops at the same time.

Should it develop that inferior brands were sold at the Moose bar, will the punishment be made to fit the crime?

Skunks hang around the camps of the American soldiers in Mexico, but still that may not be any worse than having Mexicans in proximity.

Members of the new Red Cross chapter can get preliminary practice by taking care of the pedestrians run over by automobiles.

In Berlin they arrest young women for putting paint and powder on their faces. Just think how full the jail will be if Chief Nick should tell the police to follow the example set by the officers in Berlin.

Johnnie may be the one who has raised the price of gasoline, but he is very liberal to the Belgians and others; if that is any satisfaction to those who are being held up.

A writer in a health publication tells how to grow old, but it is only a waste of words and space. Time attends to that detail without any effort on the part of the individual.

Caution! Trouble with Mexico is on the side of the Apaches on the Mexican side just to demonstrate another phase of American superiority.

Snap Shots
By JAY E. HOUSE

After a man took out his shotgun his mother should stop calling him Willie. She should call him "Willie" or "Will."

The happy bridegroom knows the word "wife" is in the marriage service only by hearsay. The happy bridegroom knows something to which he is a party is happening, but he has no definite idea as to what it is.

Mariage may also be defined as a paid up subscription to a permanent lecture course.

Here is another inviolable rule: No man who is 25 years old feels as well as he ever did.

A man who goes to the debtors' prison usually manages to come back. A woman's ticket over to come back is no return trip coupon.

It is difficult to understand a man's fondness for his wife, in the fact that he is a father. The function of remodelling is the commonest thing in the world.

In a small town men are divided into two classes: Those who loaf in the drug store and those who loaf in front of the grocery store.

The newspapers print more men than the courts usually are guilty, while often those convicted by the newspapers often are innocent.

No woman stands still. She grows prouder or fatter every day as long as she lives.

The most precarious livelihood is that earned by a man who lives by his wits.

In Cleveland they tell a story of a boy who left school to work for a small manufacturer. The boy was dull and

had to be sent to a home training institute.

"Woman," he snarled to the wife of his bosom. "Don't talk to me about women. They're all fools. They're all fools. Whenever you hear of anyone doing a especially foolish thing, you usually guess right when you ask it was done by a woman."

He paused with the air of having said the last word. But his wife went on calmly, "Well, James, you may tell us."

"A wife."

At a meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association, the members related this interesting experience. He had, he said, recently sold a couple of "squeakers"—very young pigeons—to a man whose mate was two hundred miles away. He sent them off by train and was astonished to find them back in the old cage a couple of days later.

There was profound silence, broken at length by the president's "Wonderful."

"You doubt my word?" demanded the narrator of the story.

"Not a bit of it," was the reply. "It's a strange coincidence, that a man I sent the very same man a sitting of eggs in the middle of June. Before the end of the month those birds had hatched out and had flown back to me. Having instinct is a wonderful thing!"

"Some men are so suspicious," said Uncle Eben, "dat if a fairy was to come along an offer to grant 'em three wishes, they'd have a fairy arrested 'fore he could say 'mister.'

Ernest P. Bicknell, national director of the American Red Cross, said on his return from Belgium to a Washington reporter:

"If peace is to come, each side must do its share. Advances must be made like the girl, you know."

A young millionaire paid to a beautiful girl on a moonlit beach between two dances.

"Don't you like the Shakespearean quotation?"

"The friends thou hast and their adoption tried,

Grapple them to thy soul with hoops of steel."

"The girl sighed.

"Beautiful," she said. "Beautiful. But wouldn't hoops of gold be better?"

Rippling Rhymes
By Walt Mason

BE CHEERFUL

Don't talk of griefs and things like those, don't be a chronic fretter; for if you don't describe your woes, all men will like you better.

Perhaps you have the largest corn that ever hurt a trifly; but if you treat the same with scorn, you more attractive will be. Perhaps you have an aching tooth that's given you the willies; why, then, conceal the hateful truth, and talk of Easter lilies. Time was when I would lose my chums as fast as I could gain them; them; they'd leave me, gnashing teeth and guns—I never could retain them. My conversation gave a shock, and made the victims shiver, because I always wished to talk about my lights and liver. At last it dawned upon my mind that if I'd not be lonely, I must some

cheerful subjects find—and cheerful subjects only. So I began to dance and sing, and talk of matters cheery, and people murmured,

"You, byjng, no longer make us weary." I do not talk of how I feel, of anguish grim and gripping; if I have ear-ache in my head, I talk of lambkins skipping.

Daily Lessons in History

One Hundred Years Ago Today.

1816—First interview between Napoleon and Sir Hudson Lowe, the new governor of St. Helena.

Seventy-five Years Ago Today.

1811—The temperance movement originated by the Washington Total Abstinence society was spreading rapidly over the country.

Fifty Years Ago Today.

1866—Attempted assassination of Alexander II, of Russia at St. Petersburg. Charles Keane made his last American appearance at the old Broadway theater, N.Y.

Twenty-five Years Ago Today.

1891—British ship "St. Gennaro"

Twenty Years Ago
(From The Times Files)

The Choctaw will stop in the city twenty minutes for breakfast and the same for supper. Until the completion of the depot, meals will be served at the Hotel Thompson.

Whit M. Grant has been United States commissioner for twelve days and has not issued a single warrant. He is not doing his duty by the hungry marshals.

The county commissioners yesterday made the famous gerrymander of the commissioner district, made two years ago to prevent the election of a republican member from the east district. The old line was restored except the Lincoln township is placed in the western district. This is necessary because of the addition of the Kickapoo county to the eastern district.

President F. L. Gowin of the Choctaw will be here in a few days, when the matter of locating the general offices in the city will be settled.

The president has just made known that he will appoint Secretary Jenkins to the position of governor of Oklahoma for four years, commencing with the expiration of Governor Barnes' term of office. Governor Barnes will retire to private life in a few days.

Mrs. G. W. Thrison died this morning at her home on Tenth street, after a illness of about a week. She leaves her husband and eight children to mourn her loss.

The sale of lots at Ardmore, it is claimed, will put \$100,000 in the Chickasaw treasury.

The track laying of the Choctaw Northern has been completed to Wagoner, and the road to this point from Broken Bow will be opened May 1.

John Hall, the photographer, has sold his gallery in this city and will be taught for Wichita, Kan., where he will be representative of the N. K. Fairbank company. Mr. Hall's family will remain here for some time.

Dr. Joseph Hensley left last night for Hastings, Okla.

John Golde, editor of the Guthrie Register, spent yesterday in the city.

Thousands of people were at Delmas yesterday and walked over the track on the new scenic railroads.

Yesterday's Easter display was one of the finest in the city. The weather was ideal, many were out to the ball game and everybody was happy except the Mets, who lost the game to babies, 2-2, because of bad baserunning by Duke's men.

D. M. Stevenson was in the city en route home to the western part of the state from New York City, where he attended the annual Gamma Sigma exhibition. He was awarded a prize at this exhibition for a drawing an Oklahoma sunset, and a comic strip drawing made by him and W. C. Adam was awarded fourth prize.

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One Year Ago Today in the War.

April 18, 1891—German airmen made their third raid over England in forty-eight hours, dropping bombs in the counties of Kent, Essex, and Suffolk.

Actions in Carpathians